

**From:** [Kling, David](#)  
**To:** [Mugdan, Walter](#)  
**Cc:** [McCabe, Catherine](#); [Filippelli, John](#); [Iglesias, Ariel](#); [Kieber, Rabi](#); [Mosher, Eric](#); [Coleman, Sam](#); [Gray, David](#); [Glenn, Trey](#); [Heard, Anne](#); [Breen, Barry](#); [Flynn, Mike](#); [Shapiro, Mike](#); [Grevatt, Peter](#); [Davis, Patrick](#); [Cheatham, Reggie](#); [Clark, Becki](#); [Edlund, Carl](#); [Hill, Franklin](#); [Dravis, Samantha](#); [Tejada, Matthew](#); [Dalbey, Matthew](#); [Scheraga, Joel](#); [Caraballo, Mario](#); [Ferris, John](#); [Goldbloom-Helzner, David](#); [Sayles, Gregory](#); [Lyons, Troy](#); [Richardson, RobinH](#); [Forsgren, Lee](#)  
**Subject:** ACTION: Preparing for EPA's Regional Contributions to Hurricane Recovery  
**Date:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 5:09:09 PM

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Thanks so much, Walter, to you and your Region 2 colleagues for this summary, which is exactly what we need.

We know that recovery is shaping up in several Regions, and our HQ staff experts, like John and David, are coordinating with HQ FEMA while Agency leadership here discusses how we can best organize to support Regional recovery needs.

As you know, I'm leaving on Tuesday (10/3). Consequently, I've been communicating with OW, OP and other HQ management about establishing the recovery call that I've proposed, which I hope will be scheduled very soon.

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**David J. Kling**, Associate Administrator for Homeland Security  
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**From:** Mugdan, Walter  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 4:15 PM  
**To:** Kling, David <Kling.Dave@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** McCabe, Catherine <McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov>; Filippelli, John <Filippelli.John@epa.gov>; Iglesias, Ariel <Iglesias.Ariel@epa.gov>; Kieber, Rabi <Kieber.Rabi@epa.gov>; Mosher, Eric <Mosher.Eric@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: ACTION? Preparing for EPA's Regional Contributions to Hurricane Recovery

Hi David:

Thank you for bringing up the need for the PCC to have a discussion on our recovery efforts and needs. We would be happy to help you prepare for this conversation as appropriate.

In terms of recovery Mission Assignments (MAs), Region 2 is working with FEMA on developing a short term (30 day) Recovery MA for Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Since the NDRF has not yet been activated, the first MA will be supported by the National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) authority to pre-stage RSF coordinators and partners for the initial data gathering and recovery planning work. (The NRCC is based in Washington, DC and the MA funds would be used partially to support Regional travel to DC.)

As a result of our experience with Hurricane Sandy Recovery, the Region has identified several likely recovery challenges and demands that we would like to highlight.

1. Need to have a streamlined procurement process. In a disaster, EPA often receives FEMA funding to support delivery of EPA assistance. It is important that we establish a streamlined procurement process (FEMA and EPA) that allows the Region to be efficient in directing funding into the appropriate EPA tools (*e.g.*, the Building Blocks) to support the community.
2. Flexibility in our continuing environmental grant programs (*e.g.*, EJ, Wetlands, Brownfields, SRF) so they can be used to leverage funding from other Federal Agencies to support recovery efforts (*e.g.*, allowing SRF funding to be used as a match for FEMA funding).
3. Specialized technical support from HQ offices such as ORD, Office of Community Revitalization. Region 2 could use support and expertise in certain technical areas and in identifying existing resources, tools, and programs that could support the recovery efforts.

In terms of recovery needs for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, we have identified the following broad areas: (1) disaster debris/waste management and disposal, (2) drinking and waste water infrastructure support, and (3) the generation and distribution of energy as it relates to EPA programs. It is important to note, however, that we are still conducting assessments as part of our response and further needs may be identified, which may end up being included in the Recovery Support Strategy (RSS). Region 2 staff have been participating in the Regional Interagency Coordination team recovery meetings organized by FEMA. These meetings are preliminary planning meetings that will support long term recovery and support the development of the RSS. John Ferris and David Goldbloom-Helzner (OW) have been supporting the Region in these meetings.

Regards,

Walter

*Walter Mugdan*  
*Acting Deputy Regional Administrator*  
*U.S. EPA Region 2*  
*212-637-5000*

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**From:** Kling, David

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2017 9:47 AM

**To:** Coleman, Sam <[Coleman.Sam@epa.gov](mailto:Coleman.Sam@epa.gov)>; Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>; McCabe, Catherine <[McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov)>; Mugdan, Walter <[Mugdan.Walter@epa.gov](mailto:Mugdan.Walter@epa.gov)>; Glenn, Trey <[Glenn.Trey@epa.gov](mailto:Glenn.Trey@epa.gov)>; Heard, Anne <[Heard.Anne@epa.gov](mailto:Heard.Anne@epa.gov)>

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**Subject:** ACTION? Preparing for EPA's Regional Contributions to Hurricane Recovery

**Importance:** High

All --

As the Federal government, led by FEMA, begins to shift from Hurricane Harvey/Irma/Maria response to **recovery**, I wanted to make sure we at EPA Headquarters heard from our Regional leadership – on (1) any recent recovery mission assignment contacts from FEMA and others, on (2) likely recovery challenges and demands that you will be facing, on (3) future recovery needs that you anticipate.

I've suggested, on recent EPA Policy Coordination Committee (PCC) calls, that we take a few minutes after an upcoming PCC meeting to discuss these issues as they relate to your Regional situation and to address any other recovery matters that you'd care to add. I'm told that staff in all three Regional offices are already engaged in some recovery discussions with FEMA and other federal agency colleagues.

➤ **Your thoughts, on timing and venue (post-PCC or dedicated call)?**

Share those thoughts with all or, if you wish, call me directly at 202 564-0317.

I understand that members of the Agency's political team are also discussing hurricane recovery, including potential program investments (which might dovetail with the Administrator's Back to Basics priorities and the President's infrastructure and other initiatives) and relief appropriation requests.

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